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Advancement of women

Algeria, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Croatia, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, France, Gambia, Georgia, Ghana, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Kuwait, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Palau, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, San Marino, Senegal, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sudan, Suriname, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Uganda, Ukraine, Uruguay and Venezuela: revised draft resolution

International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women

The General Assembly,

Recalling the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence Against Women, adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 48/104 of 20 December 1993, and its resolution 52/86 of 12 December 1997, entitled "Crime prevention and criminal justice measures to eliminate violence against women",

Recalling also the Universal Declaration of Human Rights of 10 December 1948,[1] the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[2] the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[2] the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms

[1] Resolution 217 A (III).
[2] Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

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of Discrimination against Women[3] and the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment,[4]

Noting the Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment and Eradication of Violence Against Women, adopted by the General Assembly of the Organization of American States, held in Belém, Brazil, in 1994, and general recommendation 19 adopted by the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women at its eleventh session,[5]

Concerned that violence against women is an obstacle to the achievement of equality, development and peace, as recognized in the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women,[6] and the Beijing Platform for Action[7] which recommended a set of integral measures to prevent and eliminate violence against women, and to the full implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,

Also concerned that some groups of women, such as women belonging to minority groups, indigenous women, refugee women, migrant women, women living in rural or remote communities, destitute women, women in institutions or in detention, the girl child, women with disabilities, elderly women and women in situations of armed conflict, are especially vulnerable to violence,

Recognizing that violence against women is a manifestation of historically unequal power relations between men and women, which have led to domination over and discrimination against women by men and to the prevention of their full advancement, and that violence against women is one of the crucial social mechanisms by which women are forced into subordinate positions, compared with men,

Recognizing that the human rights of women and of the girl child are an inalienable, integral and indivisible part of universal human rights,[8] and the need to promote and protect all human rights of women and girls,[9]

Alarmed that women do not fully enjoy their human rights and fundamental freedoms, and concerned about the long-standing failure to protect and promote those rights and freedoms in relation to violence against women,[10]

Recognizing with satisfaction the cooperation provided by the relevant agencies, bodies, funds and organs of the United Nations system to different countries in the fight to eradicate violence against women, in the fulfilment of their respective mandates,

Recognizing also the efforts made by civil society and non-governmental organizations that have contributed to create worldwide social conscience of the negative impact, both on social and economic life, of violence against women,

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[3] Resolution 34/180, annex.

[4] Resolution 39/46, annex.

[5] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 38* (A/47/38), chap. I.

[6] *Report of the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, Nairobi, 15-26 July 1985* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.85.IV.10), chap. I, sect. A.

[7] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

[8] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III, sect. II, para. 69.

[9] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I, para. 31.

[10] See Commission on Human Rights resolution 1999/42.

Reiterating that, according to article 1 of the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women, the term "violence against women" means any act of gender-based violence that results in, or is likely to result in, physical, sexual or psychological harm or suffering to women, including threats of such acts, coercion or arbitrary deprivation of liberty, whether occurring in public or in private life,

1. *Decides* to designate 25 November International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women;

2. *Invites*, as appropriate, Governments, the relevant agencies, bodies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system, and other international organizations and non-governmental organizations, to organize on that day activities designated to raise public awareness on the problem of violence against women.